

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1936

WHEREAS, the members of the Missouri Senate always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the lives and careers of Show-Me State residents who have proven down through the years to be exceptional, involved citizens in their local communities and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Melvin A. (Mel) Aytes of Lee's Summit has attained considerable distinction as a graduate of Owensville High School who faithfully served his country in the United States Army during the Korean War era, earned Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees from Central Missouri State University, and married his beloved Kathy Drummond in 1964; and

WHEREAS, Mel Aytes deserves special mention of his three decades as the Director of Governmental Affairs for Metropolitan Community Colleges, a vocation which he drew to a well-deserved close in 2003 by handing over the reins to his successor prior to the start of the 2004 Legislative Session; and

WHEREAS, Mel Aytes brought to his professional labors as Director of Governmental Affairs a wealth of knowledge and experience which he had garnered from earlier work as a Professor of Political Science at Kansas City Junior College and Longview Community College and as a Social Science teacher at Ritenour Senior High School; and

WHEREAS, recipient of many honors and accolades, Mel Aytes recently received the Mary Stacy Distinguished Service Award from the City of Lee's Summit; and

WHEREAS, Mel Aytes is wholeheartedly dedicated to bettering the quality of life in his hometown through the service venues provided by Lee's Summit Methodist Church, American Legion, AMVETS, Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce, Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, Missouri Political Science Association, Theta Chi fraternity, and Phi Sigma Pi honorary fraternity; and

WHEREAS, although he will be fondly remembered by elected and staff members of the Missouri State Legislature for many reasons, Mel Aytes has ensured his place in legislative history even in retirement by continuing to cook world-renowned ham and beans for the Missouri Senate and House:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the long, productive career of Melvin Aytes and to convey to him this legislative body's heartiest congratulations and our best wishes as he partakes of the special opportunities and pleasures traditionally associated with the golden years of retirement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Melvin Aytes of Lee's Summit, Missouri.